under "12—2—Tramway—B1—d1—Stations, etc." The provision made in the budget for engineering works has been insufficient, the main factor being the extra expenditure necessitated consequent as the tender enhancements which could not be foreseen at the the time of the submission of the budget. The additional allotments are therefore necessary. I request that the House may be pleased to sanction them.

Mr. A. B Salem *(Mattancheri):* Will you kindly tell us how these sleepers and bridge and ballasts were not foreseen?

Mr. S. Venkateswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* The tender enhancement was not foreseen, Sir.

Demands put and carried

109. Rs. 19,467 under "12—2—Tramway—B1—C1—Bridges"

Mr. S. Venkateswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* I would now take up 109. I move for a grant of Rs. 19,467 under "12—2—Tramway—B1—B4—Sleepers". Due to the heavy traffic adequate repairs have to be done on the permanent way much more frequently and replacement of sleepers has to be attended to. Since the necessity arose during the course of the year, expenditure has to be met by the additional allotment. I request the House may be pleased to vote the grant.

Demand put and carried

114. Rs. 26,563 under "12—2—Tramway—B2—C—Fuel"

Mr. S. Venkateswaran *(Conservator of Forests):* I move that an additional allotment of Rs.26,563 under "12—2—Tramway—B2—C—Fuel". Several additional trains have to be run during the course of the year for the transport of small size teak ballies and telegraph posts and consequently extra quantity of fuel is required. The additional allotment is required for this purpose. I request the House to vote the grant.

Demand put and carried

LEGISLTIVE BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Cochin Pachayat Bill

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Sir, I move that the Cochin Panchayat Bill be taken up and finally passed.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I second it.

Motion put and carried

The Cochin Revenue Enquiries Act (Amendment) Bill

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* I beg to move that the Cochin Revenue Enquiries Act (Amendment) Bill be taken up and finally passed.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Adovocate-General):* I second it.

Motion put and carried

The Cochin Vagrancy Bill

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Sir, I beg to present the Select Committee Report on the Cochin Vagrancy Bill and to move that the Bill as reported on by the Select Committee be taken into consideration. In doing so I beg to point out that only two important changes have been effected by the Committee. One is with regard to the levy of the beggar cess. Hon'ble Members will remember that the proposal was to levy a special cess to meet the expenditure connected with giving relief to the vagrants. In the Select Committee, the question was very seriously considered and it was agreed that it ought to be considered as a primary charge on the Government to give relief to vagrants and that the expenditure connected with it should be met from the general revenues. Everybody was agreed on the point and I am glad to announce to the Council that the Government have accepted that proposal of th Committee and the idea of levying a special cess has been dropped.

The next change is with regard to subsidy for aid to be given to private institutions which would be extending their co-operation to give relief to the vagrants of the State. The House will remember that the Committee originally constituted to draft a Bill had introduced a clause by which subsidy was to be extended, but in the Government Bill that was brought before this

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House, that was deleted. The Select Committee went into that question very seriously and it was decided that it will be unwise to reject altogether the co-operation promised by the private institutions. It was therefore decided that subsidy to the extent of the actual cost of maintenance including clothing and bedding alone shall be given to such institutions as would take in vagrants on the basis of the expenditure actually incurred by the nearest Government centre. It was also decided that option should be given to the vagrant as to whether he should go to a private home or whether he should go to a settlement conducucted by the Government. The choice being given to him, it was decided that if he goes to a private centre of his own choice, the Government should extend to him help to the extent of the actual maintenance, clothing and bedding. With this change, the Select Committee has agreed with all the other proposals of the original Bill.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* Sir, I beg to second the motion that the Bill as reported upon by the Select Committee be taken into consideration by the House.

Motion put and carried.

The House rose for the day at 4-55 p.m.

N. S. RADHAKRISHNA SARMA
Secretary to the Council

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APPENDIX I

(Please see answer to question No. 285)

List showing total No. of ration shops owned by each community in the State

		Brought forward	1042
		Ambalavasi	12
Nairs	150	Washerman	2
Tamil Brahmin	33	Pondan	1
Romo Syrian	294	Chaliyan	2
Latin Catholic	135	Malayala Brahmin	8
Jacobites	73	Valan	1
Other Xian	3	Jew	2
Anglo-Indians	3	Ezhuthassan	16
Ezhuvas	178	Chettiyar	24
Muslims	114	Nambidi	1
Saraswath Brahmins	39	Banyan	1
Kudumbichetty	7	Koundan	1
Kshatriyas	2	Kurukkal	2
Pilla	10	Kaikollan	2
Pulayan	1	Telugu chetty	1
	1042		1118

Besides, there are 41 shops run by Co-operative Societies and other such institutions.